GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:825
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2001
DECLINE IN WATER LEVEL IN DELHI
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bhukamp ke jhatkon se jalsthar me girawat" appearing in the Hindustan dated January 31, 2001:

(b) if so, the facts and details in this regard;

(c) the present status of water level in Delhi and in comparison to each of the preceding five years; and

(d) the steps taken to recharge the ground water level in the State?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have seen the news-item captioned "Bhukamp ke jhatkon se jalsthar me girawat" appearing in a section of the press on January 31, 2001. As per observations made by the Central Ground Water Board,no fall in the level of ground water due to the earthquake has been observed in Bhuj area of Gujarat.

(c) The present level of ground wter in NCT of Delhi rangesfrom 0.95 to 37.25 metres below ground level. Block-wise details of the ground water level measured by the Central Ground Water Board in NCT of Delhi during the preceding five years is given below:-

(Average ground water level in metres)

Name of Block	2000 (Nov)	1999(Nov	1998(Nov	1997(Nov	1996(Nov
Alipur	5.33	5.15	5.02	5.32	4.40
Kanjhawala	8.75	5.77	4.27	4.83	4.78
Mehrauli	22.79	24.97	19.71	21.04	19.53
Shahdara	5.79	5.20	4.23	6.59	5.88
City	11.55	10.29	8.80	8.96	8.52

(d) Water being a State subject, steps to augment ground water resources are to be taken by the concerned State Governments. The steps taken by the Union Government to increase ground water level in the NCT of Delhi include:-

(i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". Ground water recharge structures were constructed at Jawaharlal Nehru University and IIT campus of NCT of Delhi under the scheme. A rain water harvesting structure was constructed in the premises of Shram Shakti bhavan, New Delhi.

(ii) The Central Ground Water Board have assisted the DDA, NDMC, PWD and CPWD a number of co-operative group housin socities in NCT of Delhi in preparation of proposals for recharging ground water through rain water harvesting.

(iii) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(iv) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories including NCT of Delhi to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(v) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories, including NCT of Delhi to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.